

greeted the Saponi Tribe with war and destruction. As a result, this tribe asked the State of Virginia for protection through the aid of their friend William Eaton. The Tuscarora Tribe lived in the southern part of Vance County. This tribe was by far the most proud and prestigious of all tribes in the county. They were warriors and because of their numerous population forced the settlers to delay their plans of a settlement until the year 1713. As a result, settlements of the area prospered but no evidence of town development occurred until 1787. At this time, the Town of Williamsboro was chartered and grew to become the leading religious, educational and business center of the area. The War Between the States changed the character of Williamsboro which was primarily geared toward the agricultural economy. After Reconstruction, the town swiftly lost its position of influence and today is a pleasant and small unincorporated community. Vance County has been part of eight different North Carolina counties and at one time it was located in the State of Virginia. In more recent years, Vance County was formed from sections of Granville, Warren, and Franklin counties. The public demand for establishing Vance County was formulated and first attempted in 1879 with the growth of Henderson as a tobacco market and retail trade center which created a demand for legal services and courthouse facilities. The first attempt to create a new county to be known as Gilliam County failed to pass in the State Legislature. The bill was re-introduced in 1881 and proposed that the county be named in honor of Governor Zebulon Vance, a measure designed to gain favor with the State legislators. The bill was approved and Vance County became a